

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 CU-04 HA-05 /068 W
-----069948 070422Z /66

R 061500Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2659
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 35498

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE FR UR SHUM
SUBJ: CSCE: FRENCH WILL "REACT" IF SHCHARANSKY IS
TRIED

REF: PARIS 35382 (NOTAL)

1. ANDREANI, QUAI DIRECTOR FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, TOLD
US THAT HE HAD JUST PUT THE USSR ON NOTICE THAT GOF
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WOULD REPEAT WOULD HAVE TO "REACT" IF SHCHARANSKY WERE
TO BE TRIED WHILE THE CSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE WAS STILL
IN PROGRESS.

2. ANDREANI SAID THAT THE SOVIETS SOUNDED OUT A FRENCH
CSCE DEL MEMBER TWO WEEKS AGO ON POSSIBLE FRENCH
REACTIONS TO A SHCHARANSKY TRIAL. FRENCH REP REPLIED ON

PERSONAL BASIS (SINCE HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS AT THE TIME) THAT FRENCH CSCE DEL WOULD HAVE TO OBJECT PUBLICLY TO SUCH A TRIAL WHICH WOULD CONFLICT WITH HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES CSCE PROCESS IS ESPOUSING.

3. ANDREANI HAS NOW DELIBERATELY REINFORCED THIS POINT DURING HIS JUST CONCLUDED MOSCOW CONSULTATIONS BY TELLING SOVIETS THAT THE FRENCH REP IN BELGRADE HAD IN FACT BEEN SPEAKING ON INSTRUCTIONS. THE SOVIETS REPLIED THAT FRENCH OBJECTIONS AT BELGRADE TO A SHCHARANSKY TRIAL WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE "UNDERSTANDING" REACHED DURING THE BREZHNEV VISIT. WHEN ANDREANI REPLIED THAT "THERE WAS NO SUCH UNDERSTANDING", SOVIETS FINALLY SEEMED TO APPRECIATE SIGNIFICANCE OF POINT.

4. ANDREANI IS NOT WILLING TO PREDICT WHETHER THIS INTERVENTION WILL HELP AVOID A SHCHARANSKY TRIAL, BUT IS ON BALANCE PESSIMISTIC. FOR INSTANCE WHEN HE REFERRED TO THIS ISSUE IN SEPARATE MOSCOW CONVERSATIONS WITH DUBININ, LATTER ONLY LOOKED DISINTERESTED AND SAID "SHCHARANSKY WHO?"

5. ON OTHER CSCE THEMES, ANDREANI FOUND SOVIETS RELATIVELY RELAXED OVER DEVELOPMENTS AT BELGRADE -- "EXCEPT FOR ONE DELEGATION". ANDREANI REPLIED THAT US DELEGATION WAS DOING NOTHING BEYOND WHAT WAS TO BE CONFIDENTIAL

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EXPECTED, GIVEN US DOMESTIC POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS, AND THAT IT HAD REMAINED WELL WITHIN BOUNDARIES SET IN THE FINAL ACT FOR THE CSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE. ANDREANI LEFT MOSCOW WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THE USSR WAS IN FACT COMPLAINING FOR THE RECORD.

6. COMMENT: ANDREANI'S INITIATIVE, WHICH WE ASSUME HAS SENIOR GOF SUPPORT, REPRESENTS SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS OVER THE QUAI'S POSITION OF LAST SUMMER, WHEN WE HAD BEEN TOLD THAT FRENCH WOULD DISASSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM ANY PUBLIC EXCHANGES OVER THE SHCHARANSKY CASE. IN THIS AND OTHER CONTEXTS, FRENCH HAVE EVIDENTLY ADOPTED A RESTRAINED BUT QUITE FORTHRIGHT HUMAN RIGHTS STANCE AT BELGRADE.
HARTMAN

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